

LABOR CLARION

Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council (A.F.L.)

Vol. XLIII

San Francisco, February 16, 1945

No. 3

AFL Council Urges Congress To Adopt Voluntary Plan To End Labor Waste

MIAMI.—Opening its annual mid-winter session with a bang, the A.F.L. executive council took these immediate actions:

1. It called upon the U. S. Senate to reject the House-approved May Bill, called for a labor draft, and adopt instead the Taft substitute which retains voluntary controls and is aimed at elimination of labor waste and hoarding.

Mine Workers' Case

2. It prepared to settle once and for all the question of reaffiliation of the United Mine Workers' Union.

3. It accepted President William Green's report on the amicable adjustment of long standing jurisdictional differences between the International Association of Machinists on one side and the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and the International Union of Operating Engineers on the other.

The executive council left no room for doubt on its stand with regard to the so-called work or fight legislation which is considered the most dangerous blow directed at labor's basic freedoms in many years.

Condemn Labor Draft

By unanimous vote the Council condemned the May Bill as a precursor to slave labor in America and urged the U. S. Senate to defeat it.

Emphasizing that the May Bill would hurt war production instead of increasing it, the council strongly recommended adoption of the Taft substitute. This measure, which lost by only a handful of votes in the House, where it was introduced by Rep. Barrett of Wyoming, would leave administration of manpower problems where it is now lodged—with the War Manpower Commission.

But the bill goes much further. It empowers the

War Manpower Commission for the first time with authority to go into war plants and investigate labor waste and hoarding. If such investigation shows that surplus manpower exists, the commission would be empowered to order the release of workers not needed so that they could be funneled into other war plants where actual shortages may exist.

The executive council firmly derided that a real or dangerous manpower shortage exists in war plants generally throughout the country. It held that the few local and sporadic labor shortages which develop from time to time can best be adjusted by methods, rather than the machinery of draft board.

With regard to the United Mine Workers, President Green told newspaper reporters that he expected the council to make a final decision one way or another at this meeting. He said he would submit to the council correspondence which has taken place with officers of the miners' union since the last A.F.L. convention.

During the next few days, the council will give its consideration to a long list of vital legislative proposals affecting the labor movement.

It will also draft reports on postwar action necessary to establish economic and social security in America when the fighting ends.

Newspaper's Expression

In relation to the labor draft proposal the Washington (D.C.) *Daily News* stated as follows:

"The administration is taking upon itself a terrible responsibility in demanding this legislation (national labor service) in the face of practically unanimous testimony of industrial management and labor that it will fail to accomplish its purpose.

"The managers and workers in private industry know that the government officials and agencies directing production schedules and labor allocations have made many costly mistakes in exercising the power already given them. And they doubt, logically, that the mere granting of more power would make the same officials and agencies any wiser or more efficient.

"True, our allies and our enemies have national service laws. But is that necessarily a good argument? American management and American free labor have outproduced both allies and our enemies. And what counts more than results?"

Victory for Labor

Labor won the initial round in the Senate fight when the military affairs committee decided to hold hearings, before acting upon the House approved May bill.

Advocates of compulsory labor, who sought to stampede the committee into an immediate favorable report on the May bill, received a jolt when the Senate group decided to call in labor and industry representatives, along with military leaders, to express their views on the legislation. It was expected that at least three representatives of the A.F.L. will be invited to testify.

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney, who insisted new hearing be held, declared that the entire war picture

has changed since the latest drive for compulsory labor legislation was initiated. He said: "At that time, the Russian drive had not begun. Now the Russians are at the gates of Berlin."

Senators Express Views

Other Senators, developing the same theme, indicated that if the compulsory labor bill were passed, the war in Europe might end before machinery could be organized to put it into effect. They pointed out that the defeat of Germany would result in sharp reduction of war production in this country and the creation of labor surpluses, instead of shortages. They said they felt more than reluctant to vote for legislation which would enslave labor after the need for manpower controls had vanished.

Meanwhile, Senator Edwin C. Johnson exposed undercover attempts by War Department officials to sing one tune in public and an entirely different one in secret. While the War Department went along with other government agencies in asking the Senate military affairs committee to place administration of the May bill under the War Manpower Commission instead of the Selective Service system, Senator Johnson charged that private telephone calls

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Council Telegram to Senators

The A.F.L. executive council in session at Miami last week sent the following urgent telegraphic message to the U. S. Senate:

"To all U. S. Senators:

"The executive council of the American Federation of Labor respectfully requests you to vote against the May Bill and in favor of the Taft substitute measure.

"This action of the executive council is based upon the fact that the May Bill provides for compulsion and involuntary servitude and subjects civilian workers to military control, while the Taft measure provides for voluntary service and control of civilian workers by civilian agencies set up by the government.

"The advisory committee to Director of War Mobilization Byrnes unanimously expressed opposition to the May Bill with its compulsory features and in favor of administration of manpower during the war by the War Manpower Commission and other civilian agencies.

"Passage of the May Bill would seriously affect the morale of civilian workers and would serve to lower efficiency and cause widespread resentment among the workers of the nation. Passage of the Taft substitute would serve to increase efficiency, build morale and increase war material production.

"Let the workers of the nation continue to demonstrate that free labor is more efficient than forced compulsory labor.

"The executive council earnestly urges you to respond to this appeal made in behalf of the millions of loyal workers who are represented by the American Federation of Labor."

Farmers Also Worrying

Organized labor is not alone in worrying about the drafting of labor for private profit. That farmers are greatly disturbed is evidenced by the protests voiced by their representatives in Congress.

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, draft director, stirred up a hornets' nest when he said before the House committee on agriculture that the Tydings' amendment to the Selective Service Act does not prohibit local boards from drafting young farmers.

The only question for the boards to consider, Hershey contended, is whether the worker is essential to the needs of the armed forces.

Senator Millard F. Tydings (Dem., Md.), author of the amendment, declared Hershey had read into the legislation something that isn't there. Congress has decreed, Tydings said, that "no farmer shall be drafted for whom there is no replacement."

Nearly every issue of the *Congressional Record* is sprinkled with speeches objecting to the army's farm-draft policies. Most of the speakers take the position that, instead of taking workers from the farms, thousands must be supplied if the nation's food needs are to be met.

A.F.L. Urges Congress To Enact Voluntary Plan

(Continued from Page One)

were made by high War Department officials resisting the change.

Hearings before the Senate committees will be in executive sessions and the public will not be admitted.

Labor forces, having lost their fight in the House by a mere 6 votes, were marshalling their forces for a sterner effort in the Senate with the prospect of better success. If the Senate adopts the Taft substitute, favored by the A.F.L., it was believed certain that the House will agree to go along.

Sabotage by C.I.O.

A.F.L. leaders charged that sabotage from Communist-controlled C.I.O. unions hurt labor's efforts to defeat the May bill in the House. Several Congressmen who were unwilling to vote for the May bill in the face of united labor opposition switched at the last minute when the C.I.O.-Communists came out in favor of the May bill. Their action followed endorsement of the bill by the Daily Worker. This development was cited as another instance of the betrayal of labor's freedoms by the Communists, who are more interested in obeying Moscow's orders than protecting the rights of workers.

"Step Toward Totalitarianism"

Dominating a radio debate on compulsory labor proposals, A.F.L. Legislative Representative Lewis G. Hines warned that if Congress finally enacts such legislation "America will have taken a long step down the path that leads to totalitarianism."

Labor refuses to support the May Bill, Hines said, "because we feel that the methods proposed would retard rather than aid the war effort." The A.F.L.'s position, he added, is that "compulsory legislation cannot accomplish what a voluntary effort by free labor can." Hines concluded:

"We object most strenuously to the unfair high-pressure methods that have been employed to pit the soldier against the worker on the home front. Both are partners in the march to victory. We believe that the soldier on the battlefield has confidence in his brothers and sisters on the production line at home, and he knows that they have not and will not let him down.

"Anything that tends to destroy the confidence between the soldier and the home front worker, such as trying to make it appear that work or fight legislation is needed because we have failed or are about to fail on the home front, seriously injures the morale of all our people.

"Those of us who are destined to remain on the home front will continue to produce for victory. We will do this in the traditional American way of free men."

Assails Sentence of Army Private

Denouncing sentencing by an Army courtmartial of a soldier to death for disobeying an officer at Camp Roberts, Calif., Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana called for an investigation of the matter by the Senate military affairs committee.

The soldier is Pvt. Henry Weber, sentenced February 3 for alleged violation of the 64th Article of War, which concerns assaulting or willfully disobeying a superior officer.

"Whoever sentenced that boy to hanging ought to be discharged from the Army," Wheeler told the Senate.

"Unless I am assured by the committee on military affairs that it will look into the matter and do something about it, I intend to introduce a resolution providing for an investigation."

"Instead of having the responsible officers dismissed from the Army," asked Senator Chavez of New Mexico, "why not send them to the front lines?"

"That probably would be a good idea," replied Wheeler, "but if they have no more sense than to sentence a man to hanging for such an offense, I do not know what good they would do in the front lines."

Senator Wheeler said it was his information that Weber had been sentenced for refusal to join his squad at drill. He declared:

"It is inconceivable to me that Army officers would sentence a man to death because he refused to drill. If that were to be done, between 16,000 and 18,000 Canadians would have to be hanged because they refused to drill."

UPHOLSTERERS POSTPONE MEETINGS

Postponement for the duration of five departmental conventions in a furtherance of war transportation needs, has been announced by Sal B. Hoffmann, president of the Upholsterers' International Union. The postponed meetings, all originally scheduled for February or March, were the annual conference of the upholstered furniture, wood furniture, casket workers, bedding and mattress workers, and Pacific Coast departments. The five departments represent a total of more than 50,000 workers in the respective industries in the United States and Canada, the great majority of whom are engaged in the production of war materials. In announcing the postponement, President Hoffmann said: "War time needs of America's transportation system come before any convention that would be afforded our departments through convening as usual, on a delegate basis in centrally located markets. We shall make our plans for meeting current and postwar problems facing workers in these industries, through arriving at decisions reached in local union meetings discussed and amended by correspondence and telegraph."

Proof of Manpower Waste Is Submitted to Council

MIAMI.—Evidence of widespread waste of labor, exaggerated estimates of manpower needs and failure of government procurement agencies to work out a program for full use of facilities already in operation, was presented to the A.F.L. executive council meeting here.

These facts were gathered by the A.F.L. research staff in support of labor's contention that compulsory labor draft legislation is unnecessary and that civilian agencies should be retained to direct manpower mobilization.

Example in Los Angeles

As an example of manpower waste, a report from an A.F.L. representative in Los Angeles charged that carpenters and other skilled workers in shipyards in that area were being kept in enforced idleness. The report added:

"Management refuses to release them although shortage of skilled carpenters in nearby crating yards delays the crating of munitions for shipment to the Pacific war fronts.

"Airplane parts and equipment of all kinds are piling up, waiting to be crated, while skilled carpenters in shipyards are told by management to hide themselves and are not allowed to do the work they ask permission to do."

The A.F.L. research service declared that similar conditions exist in Navy yards and many plants working on a cost-plus basis.

The executive council was informed that the Taft Bill, offered as a substitute for the May-Bailey Bill in Congress, would correct these conditions by empowering the Manpower Commission to investigate and eliminate wastage and hoarding of labor.

Investigation by A.F.L. representatives also showed that scores of companies have exaggerated their manpower requirements. In a few cases, it was found that firms have been laying off higher paid workers while claiming manpower shortages.

To prove that the armed services do not plan contract awards so as to use production facilities fully, the A.F.L. research service reported:

Awarding Contracts

"In awarding their contracts, the armed services frequently permit a well-equipped plant with skilled manpower to close down for lack of contracts, while work which the plant could do is awarded in a tight labor market, creating a labor shortage. An example is the nine shops which have been forced to release 70,000 men, thousands highly skilled, because the landing craft program is completed and the procurement services have not awarded new work to these plants. The plants are equipped to make fuses, casings, ordnance and do a wide variety of war work requiring modern machine shops. Such work is now being awarded in tight labor markets."

Among plants laying off men cited in the report were Dravo Corp., Neville Island, Pa., 12,500; Missouri Valley Bridge & Iron Co., Evansville, Ind., 26,000; Chicago Bridge & Iron Co., Seneca, Ill., 9,000; American Bridge Co., Ambridge, Pa., 6,500; Bethlehem Steel Co., near Boston, 7,000; Zenith Dredge Co., Duluth, 700; Jeffersonville Boat & Machine Co., Jefferson, Ind., 9,000, and Island Dock Co. & Hildebrand Yards, Kingston, N. Y., 1,500.

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I.F.T.U. Council, in Session at London, Refuses To Admit Soviet Unions and C.I.O. As Members

LONDON.—Led by Robert J. Watt of the American Federation of Labor, the general council of the International Federation of Trade Unions refused to favor a change in the I.F.T.U.'s constitution to permit the entrance of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Soviet trade unions.

Mr. Watt severely arraigned the attitude of American Communists in picketing the White House and ordering strikes in munitions industries until Germany invaded Russia.

"If the British workers and the other free trade unions of the world prefer new-found friends to old and proven allies," he said, "we sincerely regret it. But let's have no hypocrisy about it. Let no one pretend that we isolated ourselves by refusing to attend the 1945 trade union Munich."

Mr. Watt explained that the attitude of the A.F.L. on the entrance of Russian unions in the

I.F.T.U. had not changed since the I.F.T.U. meeting in Oslo in 1938. At that time, he said his organization maintained that the Russian unions were not "free-trade unions" but part of the government apparatus.

The A.F.L., he said, has "great admiration" for the Russian people, however. He insisted that the absence of strikes in Russia proved that trade unions did not exist there "as we know them."

Concluding with a warning against any steps that would lead to international labor disunity, Mr. Watt proposed that the I.F.T.U. convene a world trade union conference at the earliest possible time.

Besides the United States delegation, those who opposed any change in the I.F.T.U. rules to allow more than one national trade union center to affiliate with the I.F.T.U. were members from Canada, South Africa, Sweden and Czechoslovakia.

Accused of "Doctoring" Report on Manpower

Six months ago, *Labor*, organ of the Railroad Brotherhoods, carried a story disclosing that "brass hats" had doctored a factual War Production Board report on munitions output to "inject more pessimism" into it. Incensed at that censorship, two top W.P.B. research men resigned.

Last week *Labor* stated that it had learned that the same kind of "blue-pencilling" was administered by army and navy chiefs to a report on the manpower situation prepared by the staff of the Manpower Commission. *Labor's* article on the subject continues as follows:

"When first drafted, the document disclosed that employment in war plants had turned sharply upwards—that 100,000 more workers were added in December and the first half of January. On the whole, the survey was encouraging and indicated that manpower problems were being solved.

"However, under orders issued some time ago by 'Assistant President' James F. Byrnes, reports on manpower and production must make the round of all agencies concerned, including the army and navy, and get their 'okay' before it is issued publicly.

"As a result, when the Manpower Commission's report was finally released, in the name of Chairman Paul V. McNutt, considerable editing had occurred to 'change the emphasis,' *Labor* was informed. The revised draft placed stress instead on 'manpower shortages' and played up the claim that production of critical items, because of such shortages, 'falls far short of meeting immediate demands.'

"As revised, the document more nearly fitted in with the determination of the 'brass hats' to inflame the public and Congress into passing legislation drafting labor for private profit.

"Thus the shocking situation has been reached that no agency of the government may tell the truth if that interferes with the plans of the military—in this instance, to put over 'forced labor'."

ALMOST NORMAL AGAIN

Two old maids were in an insane asylum for years, always knitting. "Gee," sighed Mayme one day, "I wish some tall, handsome man would wind his arms around me and squeeze me until I gasp." "Now you're talking sense," replied Jane. "You'll be out of here in a few days."

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Give to Free Trade Union Fund

The appeal of the American Federation of Labor's Free Trade Union Committee has reached faraway Alaska and union members there are doing their part in aiding weakened labor organizations in other lands.

Anchorage Painters Local 427 has forwarded a contribution of \$25, and Secretary Wells C. Bowen writes: "We are pleased to join with American Federation of Labor members everywhere in strengthening organized labor in other countries. May the \$1,000,000 goal be rapidly reached."

From Canada, too, support is developing. Checks have been received from Railway Carmen's locals in Ontario, Montreal and Winnipeg. Longshoremen, Hotel and Restaurant Workers, and other A.F.L. organizations in Canada are responding.

In the United States, a steady stream of contributions continue to be received at the national office of the Labor League for Human Rights, headquarters of the Free Trade Union Committee.

Pasco, Wash., Painters Local 427 sends \$375—an average of \$1 per member. Cincinnati Meat Cutters Local 123 forwards \$200, and Everett, Wash., State, County and Municipal Employees sends a contribution equivalent to 50c per member.

Relaying funds from a few of its local unions, the International Association of Machinists sends \$2,145.50. Supplementing international gifts the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Cincinnati, has contributed \$500.

STATE SYMPHONIES PROPOSED

Dr. Serge Koussevitzky, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, proposed a postwar program in which each of the 48 States would sponsor a symphony orchestra as "spiritual food for its residents." The conductor said in an interview that a great future was opening for American orchestral musicians.

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Machinists' Stoppage Not Against Women Workers

CHICAGO.—Machinists here were forced to cease work when their employer violated a union shop agreement by employing women workers, who were not covered by a union contract, at a rate of pay lower than the union scale. The dispute has been settled, and will be arbitrated.

Newspaper stories that the union was discriminating against the women "are entirely erroneous," James McDonald, business representative of District 8, International Association of Machinists said.

"It wasn't a question of whether these women were to be employed," he said. "As a matter of fact we have attempted to negotiate a contract for women employees. It was a question of whether our agreement and the union's scale of wages was to be maintained."

The women were employed by the Goss Printing Press Company, manufacturers of printing presses.

"In 1942," McDonald explained, "owing to a scarcity of skilled machinists, the union agreed to the employment of women at the Goss plant to do certain machinists' operations at a rate of pay lower than the regular machinists' scale, with the understanding that at the end of the yearly period an equitable wage structure for the jobs involved would be negotiated.

"That agreement was never continued. The union agreement now in force—which, incidentally, was in dispute before the War Labor Board for approximately 2 years—does not cover women workers.

"The union finally called the women off the job; as they were not covered by a contract, the women were instructed to remain off the job until an agreement covering their job classifications could be negotiated. Ten of the women employees refused to comply with the union's instructions and the company allowed them to continue work in violation of its union shop agreement with our organization.

"Immediately all union members ceased to work. They did not return until the employees who remained at work were taken off the job."

The British National Union of Mine Workers, which came into existence with the new year, will combine twenty-three mining unions in various fields in one organization. The combined organization will have between 600,000 and 700,000 members, and will start with a capital of about \$2,000,000, produced by a special assessment of \$4 (one pound sterling) for every member, and about \$2 for every junior member of the new national organization.

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LABOR CLARION

Published Weekly by the
SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL (A.F.L.)

Office, 101 Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street
San Francisco, 3, California
Telephone: HEmlock 3924

W. N. MAPPING, Editor and Manager



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	Year
Single subscriptions.....	\$1.50
To unions, each subscription.....	1.00
(When subscribing for entire membership)	
Single copies.....	.05

Changes of address or additions to union mail lists must come through the secretary of each organization. Members are notified that this is obligatory.

Entered as second-class matter August 10, 1918, at the post office at San Francisco, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1945

Would Compulsion Injure the War Effort?

Discussing "Will compulsion injure the war effort?" the American Federation of Labor, in its "Monthly Survey" briefly compares strikes and other war production records of free labor in the United States and under a compulsory system in Great Britain.

The comparisons and conclusions drawn from facts cited are especially pertinent just now, when world attention is focussed on the fight over a labor draft in the United States.

"Our miracle of war production," the A.F.L. says, "has been due in no small part to the whole-hearted effort of free American labor. Donald Nelson, former W.P.B. chief, said, 'We call our secret weapon the initiative, the intelligence and "know-how" of the free American worker.' Joseph Keenan, W.P.B., vice-chairman, said of airplane workers' increased production: 'Their sense of participation and feeling of fair play have been so heightened that they broke all records.' Rear Admiral Frederick G. Crisp said in January, 1945 that production achievement to date has been 'nothing short of miraculous.' W.P.B. vice-chairman C. S. Golden and J. D. Kennan said in January, 1945: 'Free labor in the United States has been able to meet every demand upon it. Despite all the difficulties and handicaps American workers have made the grade in every instance.'"

* * *

Then the A.F.L. goes on to comment and tell of British experience, saying:

"Free American workers have given their best because they wanted to keep their freedom." They knew it was up to them, and they shouldered the responsibility for getting out production. If now their freedom is taken from them by placing a club of compulsory power in the hands of Selective Service, this will be a daily demonstration that they have lost the thing they are working for. What will be the effect?

"Perhaps we can judge from the experience of Britain where compulsory labor has been in effect throughout the war. In Britain absentee rates have averaged 10 percent in 1943 and 1944; in America 6 to 7 percent.

"An impartial poll of British public opinion on compulsory labor stated: 'All managements complained of indiscipline of the new labor which was unwilling because it was drafted . . . a minority of conscripts was satisfactory.' Are we now to kill the valiant spirit of voluntary cooperation by a system of compulsion in this country?"

* * *

The A.F.L. says in conclusion: "The worker's freedom to take or leave a job, as administered under our present system acts as an automatic control to improve efficiency. American workers produce best when they come to the job of their own free will. Freedom to leave a job where their skills are not

fully used is a safeguard against hoarding and waste of labor. Also, a free labor system forces plants to correct bad labor conditions which cause inefficiency. All these incentives to efficiency are lost under a compulsory system.

"Under labor's no-strike pledge, the strike record has been exceptionally low. In 1944 only one-tenth of 1 percent of work time was lost by strikes; man-days worked averaged 700,000,000 a month, man-days lost by strikes only 700,000. In Britain last year under compulsory labor, strikes caused more losses of production than at any time in the last twelve years. Strikes loss in Britain in 1944 was 16 per cent above that of U. S. A."

Lax Enforcement of Child Labor Laws Toll

Sixteen-year-old Johnny was terribly mangled and killed instantly when he lost his balance and fell directly on the large saw in the lumber mill—"But I told him to stay away from the saw!"

Peter, 13, must go through life without a right hand, lost when caught in a meat grinder. He was only hired to do a little cleaning up around the store after school—"But we were short of help that day."

Arthur, 15, is lame for life, for the bull-dozer operator started the motor not knowing the boy was working around it—"But we took him on as an errand boy. Could we keep an eye on him all the time?"

Mary, 17, poisoned her eyes when she rubbed them handling cords in a parachute factory—"But she had been told to be careful. These new chemicals, you know . . ."

But, if the child-labor laws had been enforced, Johnny would be alive today, and others would not have to go through life handicapped. In each instance the young worker was employed in violation of either a federal or a state law, and these cases are only a sampling of hundreds equally tragic. They were under age. They were not employed on the job for which they were hired. They were working around power-driven machinery and they were exposed to dangerous chemicals, employment forbidden in many places to those under 18.

These young workers take chances those with mature judgment guard against. Their movements are not well co-ordinated. Then, too, fatigue takes a high toll for many are employed at jobs beyond their strength, and many go to work tired, having spent a "working day" at school. They are less alert than they should be.

They need protection and many of them are not getting it. Illegal employment of minors is increasing rapidly, with too many employers taking any one they can get without bothering to get work permits or to look carefully into the boy's or girl's fitness for the job. Labor offices do not have staffs large enough for proper inspection. Therefore, a greater sense of responsibility for child-labor-law enforcement must be developed within the community if these children are to be protected.

VETERAN PLACEMENTS

WASHINGTON.—Veteran replacements numbering 77,720 were made by the U. S. Employment Service of W.M.C. during December, W.M.C. announced. Of these, 11,388 were veterans with disabilities. The total placement of veterans during 1944 was 806,139.

An industrial division tabulation, prepared by W.M.C., shows that veterans of the present war were placed in the following industries (the State of Oklahoma did not report, so that figure is missing from the over-all total): Forestry and fishing, 10; mining, 964; construction, 3146; manufacturing 33,589; transportation, communication and other public utilities, 6400; wholesale and retail trades, 6104; finance, insurance and real estate, 319; total service, 3743, of which 206 were domestic; government, 4434, and establishments not elsewhere classified, 40.

Mail from Home Declared To Be Military Necessity

WASHINGTON.—Mail from home to the fighting man is a military necessity, O.W.I. says in a fact book issued in cooperation with the Adjutant General's Office of the Army, and the Office of Naval Communications of the Navy.

Mail from home is more than a fighting man's privilege, a foreword in the book says, for there is probably no factor so vital to the fighting morale of a man as frequent letters from home. Service men themselves have said that frequent letters from home, no matter how short, are better builders of morale than long, infrequent letters, and that bright, cheerful letters can give a lift as nothing else can.

The foreword also points out that one of the great achievements of this global war, is the speed with which mail can be delivered to American fighting men, wherever they might be.

But the more letters that are sent, the greater the demand for space on ships and planes, just when the cargo space is becoming scarcer because of the expanding European campaigns and the increasing combat areas and the vast distances in the Pacific.

The answer, the book points out, is V-mail, which permits the maximum number of letters in the minimum amount of space.

Maj. Gen. F. H. Osborn, director of the Information and Educational Division of the Army Service Forces, in a letter carried in the fact book, says: "When it travels thousands of miles to a soldier overseas, and reaches him amid the hardship and loneliness of the job he is doing for his country, a letter from home is probably the most important thing that can happen to sustain his spirit. . . . I would especially urge that letters be written often by all families and friends to soldiers; that such letters should be in a cheerful vein, and that they be sent by the swiftest means. Short notes, coming along frequently, and with good news as their theme, will do more for the overseas soldier than long letters at long intervals."

Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General, in a letter also quoted wrote: "With more than 40 million individual pieces of mail being dispatched to American troops overseas every week, it is now more important than ever before that the public use V-mail when writing to American soldiers stationed outside the United States. . . . The use of V-mail at this time, when we have more than 5 million men overseas, means more and faster letters for our American soldiers, letters which can be carried by air rather than on the slow surface vessels. . . ."

"Democracy" in the Balkans

Reports from Rumania, Bulgaria and other liberated areas state that as fast as the Red Army drives the Nazis back, healthy male Germans are being deported to Russian labor camps, as part of the huge army of German workers to be forced to repair the devastation of war. These "Germans" are often people of German descent who have lived in the new homeland for centuries. Industrial equipment is also being shipped to the U.S.S.R. No outside interferences or even supervision is permitted, in this or in the Russian punishment of war criminals—which term includes anyone who is anti-Soviet.

In Bulgaria, and elsewhere in the Balkans, wherever American and British representatives on Allied Control Commissions are stationed, they are under rigid surveillance by the Red Army and the G.P.U., and restricted to certain areas. Hostility toward them is marked, particularly toward the British in Bulgaria. It is very difficult for correspondents to obtain entry into Bulgaria, or information if they do get in.

Moscow claims that suspicion between the western democracies and Russia should be overcome, but the Russians are rapidly increasing it.—New Leader.

Housing—Workers Want New Homes

By HARRY C. BATES
Chairman A.F.L. Housing Committee

(We present herewith the third of a series of articles by Mr. Bates, President of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers Union, on the nation's housing problems with which he is expertly familiar.)

THE American worker wants to be a home owner. The outright ownership of a home is the expressed desire of the great majority of our wage earners. Until the outbreak of the war the trend has been away from home ownership and toward tenancy. This was not a matter of preference on the part of workers, but the result of the bitter experience of a great many workers' families. Too many workers' families went through the heartbreaking foreclosure of what was to have been their own home. Too many lost their entire savings in the futile effort to become home-owners. Too many came to realize that without proper safeguards they cannot afford to undertake the burden of long-term home purchasing.

The American Federation of Labor believes that home ownership should play a major role in housing postwar America if established on a sound basis for families able to assume the obligations and risks of home purchase. The feverish home ownership movement after the first World War, which was built upon unsound appraisal methods, insecure second and third mortgages, short-term unamortized loans, and general illiquidity in mortgage investments, naturally brought many home owners, mortgage institutions, and banks to grief in the subsequent deflation. At least two-fifths of the number of homes built during that boom were either foreclosed or rescued by the Home Owners' Loan Corporation in the depression which followed. By June of 1933 foreclosures were occurring at the rate of 1,000 daily. The American Federation of Labor does not wish to see the home ownership movement after the war destined for similar fate.

In our cities and towns home ownership sharply declined in the 10 years preceding the war. The tragedy of our housing market in the decade of 1930s was that while more and more urban families chose to rent rather than buy, two-thirds of residential dwellings produced during that time were designed and built for sale.

Of Special Significance

Special significance attaches to the fact that the families of wage earners participated in home ownership less than any other group. In 1939 only 30 per cent of all urban families whose sole source of income was wages, were either buying or owning their homes. Most wage earners in the lower paid industries and those with wage incomes of less than \$1,000 per year were tenants and were unable to afford the financial burden of home ownership. Even in the highest paid occupations and in the highest family wage income bracket of \$5,000 a year or more, only one-half of families were prepared to assume the risks of home-buying and home ownership.

The work done by the Federal Housing Administration before the war in putting home ownership on a sounder basis is encouraging. The F.H.A. record in reducing the number of foreclosures has been excellent. It is only a part of realism, however, to admit that the risks assumed by the government under the F.H.A. plan have not yet met their real test. The F.H.A. has never weathered a depression. It has never gone through an important decline in real estate values nor a period of liquidation. Much of its success to date must be attributed to its short existence, to the rising price levels and the supporting effect of the wartime inflation of the last few years. Unless effective safeguards are established, homes bought under F.H.A. insurance in the post-war housing boom will have to weather a major

deflation. We should make sure now, before it is too late, that the system of mortgage insurance is equipped to weather a storm of mass liquidation and that another collapse is averted which would lead to mass distress among home-buyers.

In this connection it is necessary to stress the relation of the F.H.A. mortgage insurance to the obligations and risks incurred by the home-buyers themselves. Mortgage insurance underwrites the entire risk of the lender. While giving full protection to the lender, the mortgage guarantee gives no protection whatsoever to the home buyer. If, because of temporary unemployment or other economic hazard of the kind to which the wage earner's family is constantly exposed, there is even a brief default in payments, the buyer's savings invested in the property up to that time become a total loss along with the loss of his home.

Before the Crisis Comes

The American Federation of Labor believes that before we reach the crisis adequate provision should be made to protect the home owner. We propose that at this time consideration be given to the following changes in the Federal legislation applicable to the F.H.A.:

(1) Easier terms should be supplied to the home purchasing family. Mortgage interest payments constitute the largest single cost to the home buyer. The present interest rate on loans fully insured by the Federal government results in a yield too high for a risk-proof investment. We ask that the rate of interest on F.H.A. insured mortgage obligations be limited to not more than 1 per cent above the going Federal rate of interest.

We also propose that an amortization period longer than the present 25-year limit be permitted and recommend that this limit be extended to 32 years. In this connection we suggest that consideration be given to the requirement of a fixed payment against the principal of the loan throughout the life of the mortgage to make possible a more rapid amortization during the early years of the mortgage.

Increased Flexibility

(2) There should be increased flexibility in the home ownership arrangement to accommodate the families whose future needs cannot be predicted at the time of home purchase. The home buyers' investment should be protected in cases of default due to unemployment or other causes. We recommend that provision be made for a grace period or moratorium on payments, extended under stringent safeguards up to two years, enabling the home buyer to make good the lapsed payments by lengthening the life of the mortgage proportionately.

We ask that a provision be written into law protecting the home buyer against deficiency judgments which may unfairly burden a family long after it was forced to abandon its home for reasons beyond its control.

It would also be wise to provide for a prepayment formula so that larger payments made during good times could be used to tide the home buyer over subsequent difficulties.

(3) We ask that the interests of the home buyer be protected by assuring soundness of construction through compliance with firm minimum standards. We recommend the use of a system of certificates of compliance under which any failure of the builder to comply with the minimum structural standards, which may be discovered within two years after delivery, be made subject to redress or penalties.

(4) We believe it of vital importance that proper wage and employment standards be maintained on

Car Conservation Need Is Stressed by A.A.A.

Utmost efforts toward conservation of automotive equipment must be exerted during 1945, if a disastrous breakdown in automobile transportation is to be averted. This warning to owners of automobiles and to government agencies responsible for automotive supplies, based on a nationwide survey of passenger car transportation, was issued by H. J. Brunnier of San Francisco, president of the American Automobile Association and a director of the California State Automobile Association.

Points covered by the survey included the motor vehicle as an essential unit of transportation; tires, replacement parts, repair facilities, mechanic manpower, and gasoline.

In his appeal for conservation, Brunnier pointed out that the automobile has carried 75 per cent of the country's essential passenger transportation load, since Pearl Harbor, and that it has been the means of getting four out of five war workers to their jobs. Of the 25,000,000 automobiles still in operation, 25 per cent are eleven years old, or older, he said, and unless conservation is practiced, we may fall below the 20,000,000 level, estimated as the rock bottom figure for essential needs.

As far as tires are concerned, Brunnier declared that the country is operating on a very narrow margin of safety, and recapping will be the only recourse that the average car owner will have for some time to come. Motorists who allow valuable tire carcasses to go beyond the point where recapping is possible, are inviting disaster.

Slight improvements as regards replacement parts, manpower and repair facilities are noted, but there are still shortages, and these will probably become more acute as the older cars require more and more service.

Gasoline, it was added, is in an extremely delicate balance between supply and demand, chiefly because of military requirements, combined with transportation difficulties. From present indications, however, ample gasoline will be available to meet rationing requirements, but no additional allowances for civilians can be anticipated at least until the end of the war in Europe.

all home construction. We urge that the present requirement of the law that not less than prevailing wages be paid on F.H.A. insured projects of \$16,000 or more be extended to all home construction subject to F.H.A. insurance.

Construction Standards

(5) We ask that the minimum standards of construction and the inspection procedures of the F.H.A. be reviewed and strengthened and that better standards of design and planning be required, including conformity to sound neighborhood plans. Neighborhood and community planning relating housing to employment, shopping, recreational and transportation facilities, would go far toward guaranteeing a long and satisfactory life of properties underwritten by the Federal government and prove to be a powerful force behind better city planning. Application of such standards would provide better living for home owners and help keep the F.H.A. insurance system actuarially sound.

(The fourth article in this series will appear next week.)

A.F.L. members of the O.P.A. Advisory Committee succeeded in bringing about an agency ruling which will permit the purchase of extra gasoline by members of the merchant marine on shore leave between trips. The ruling grants to the Merchant Marine the same consideration which is extended to members of the armed forces who need transportation on leave or furlough for a period of three days or more.

Accuses Labor Board of Violating Pact with N.L.R.B.

CHICAGO.—The American Federation of Labor has charged the National War Labor Board with violating its agreement with the National Labor Relations Board by approving wage increases for employees of the Automatic Transportation Company during an election campaign at the plant.

The A.F.L. organization, Federal Labor Union No. 23628, filed a petition with the N.L.R.B., asking that the election results be set aside and charged that the increases, which were retroactive to September -, 1942, influenced the employees into voting for the C.I.O. The rival union, the A.F.L. petition set forth, took full advantage of the situation, leading the workers to believe that:

1. The C.I.O. had sufficient strength to require the N.W.L.B. to violate its rules and issue a directive order.

2. Unless they voted for the C.I.O., they would not receive their \$400 back pay.

3. Unless they voted for the C.I.O. and the C.I.O. won the election, there would be no one to enforce the N.W.L.B. directive, to the disadvantage of all the employees.

The A.F.L. union charged the C.I.O. with making other statements, which they knew were false during the election campaign. Handling the case for the union are Daniel D. Carmell, attorney, and Harry E. O'Reilly, regional A.F.L. director of organization.

Labor Council Resolution

As referred to in the minutes of the San Francisco Labor Council, appearing on page 10 of this issue, the following resolution was adopted by that body at its meeting held last Friday evening:

OPPOSING DECREASE IN RATIONING BOARDS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The O.P.A. set up its program in San Francisco with the establishment of 15 rationing boards in neighborhoods based on the idea that modern warfare, being total warfare seriously affecting the majority of all the citizens of any country engaged in war, would require the equitable distribution of commodities and that such equitable distribution could best be had by neighborhood rationing boards where neighbor worked with neighbor in assuring a just share of each and all commodities to each civilian after distribution to the Armed Forces; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Labor Council and the many A.F.L. Unions in San Francisco have co-operated with this program by urging their members to participate in the O.P.A. program by membership on rationing boards and by offering their services as volunteer workers on these boards; and,

WHEREAS, The newspapers of the past few days do now announce that the San Francisco district office of the O.P.A. proposes to reduce the number of rationing boards in this city to four or five; and,

WHEREAS, It is felt that such a reduction will work a hardship on the civilian population in its efforts to

comply with O.P.A. rules and regulations and will not be in the best interest of good public reaction to the O.P.A. and the job that it is authorized to do; therefore, be it *Resolved*, that the San Francisco Labor Council in its meeting of February 9th does hereby oppose the reduction of the number of rationing boards in the City and County of San Francisco; and be it further

Resolved, That the office of the Labor Council be instructed to make known the position of the Council on this matter to Mr. Chester Bowles, National Administrator of O.P.A., Mr. Charles R. Baird, Regional Administrator, and Mr. Robert Parks, District Director and the District Labor Advisory Committee.

115 Stations Carry A.F.L. Program

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 115 radio stations from coast to coast are now carrying the A.F.L.'s "America United" radio program regularly each week, the National Broadcasting Co. reported to the Federation.

"Our records do not show any sustaining program, other than the Army Hour, which has ever had a comparable acceptance, Dwight B. Herrick, manager of N.B.C.'s public service department, said.

Because of prior commitments for commercial broadcasts, some of the stations on the N.B.C.'s chain find it impossible to carry "America United" when it was originally broadcast. Many of these stations, however, have arranged to put on the program at a later hour or the following day. Those who would like to hear these weekly programs, therefore, are urged to consult the radio listings in their daily papers for the exact time "America United" goes on the air in their home communities.

Installation of Officers By Union Label Section

Secretary-Treasurer Thomas A. Rotell of the Union Label Section of San Francisco, reports the following as the roster of officials of that body for the ensuing year, and who were installed at the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening of last week:

President—Stanley Roman, Barbers No. 148.

Vice-President—Daniel Braimes, Teamsters No. 85.

Secretary-Treasurer—Thomas A. Rotell, Molders No. 164.

Sergeant-at-Arms—E. W. Bawden, Warehousemen No. 860.

Trustees—T. Gorrebeeck, Window Cleaners No. 44;

Cliff Smith, Typographical No. 21; Ben Brundage, Bill Posters and Billers No. 44.

Agitation Committee—John Forde, Moving Picture Machine Operators No. 162; Ben Brundage, Bill Posters and Billers No. 44; Phyllis Kaspar, Office Employees No. 13188.

Have you made a blood donation to the Blood Bank?

Order on Minimum Rate Pay Is Relaxed by W.L.B.

WASHINGTON.—The W.L.B. announced amendment of its General Order No. 31 governing individual wage adjustments, to provide that under specified circumstances an employer in critical or essential war work may hire workers at wage rates above the minima of their job rate range without regard to the 25 per cent limitation of the order.

The general order restricts employers who have job classification rate ranges to hiring only 25 per cent of all employees hired for jobs which have established ranges, at rates above the minima of the ranges.

In new establishments or new departments in existing establishments, an employer is permitted during the first year of operation to hire no more than 50 per cent of all the employees hired in his establishment, for job classifications for which rate ranges have been established, at rates in excess of the minima of such rate ranges for such job classifications.

The new amendment provides that whenever W.M.C. certifies in writing to an agent of the board that a particular employer is actually engaged in critical or essential war work, has observed all the rules and regulations of W.M.C., and is faced with a critical hiring problem due to the limitations of the general order, the agent of the board shall authorize the employer to hire workers without regard to such limitations.

Bridges Resolution Vetoed

A resolution of the Board of Supervisors requesting federal authorities to drop deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges was vetoed this week by Mayor Lapham.

The Mayor's action had the effect of killing the measure, inasmuch as it would be impossible, on the basis of the board's original vote, to muster enough votes to override the veto.

In vetoing the resolution, which had been adopted by the board by a 6-4 vote, the Mayor reiterated his previously stated policy that city officials should tend to their own affairs and leave national and international problems to the proper authorities. He said the case was now before the U. S. Supreme Court.

Preliminary Work Under Way for Red Cross Drive

With much of the preliminary work already underway, divisional chairmen and vice-chairmen in the San Francisco Red Cross 1945 Fund Campaign have been announced by Jean C. Witter, general chairman.

The campaign opens officially on March 1, with San Francisco being called upon to raise \$2,547,210 as its share of the nation-wide quota of \$200,000,000.

The army of campaigners who will take the field on opening day, are volunteers, Mr. Witter pointed out. Each will carry proper identification and authority to accept contributions to the Red Cross.

President John F. Shelley of the San Francisco Labor Council and George Wilson of the C.I.O. are co-chairman of the labor division of the general committee which is forwarding the campaign.

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Travel Time Considered As Time Worked by Court

It is needless to reiterate the difficulties of securing direct wage increases under the present system of wage stabilization says the California Federation of Labor in its current news bulletin, and the general subject is further therein discussed as follows:

Unions which have already exhausted all the formulae of the War Labor Board for approval of wage increases are turning to what has been labeled "fringe wage issues." These are improvements in working conditions which may be translated into monetary value. Many unions are already seeking approval of such "fringe wage issues" as paid vacations, paid holidays, sick leave, etc. It is incumbent upon the unions to seek further for such improvements in conditions.

"Fringe Issues"

There are many such "fringe wage issues" besides the more apparent ones of vacations, holidays and sick leave. One of the ways the issues of the last coal strike were resolved was by allowing what was called "Portal to Portal Pay." This matter arose in the following way:

It had been customary for the miner's work time to be figured only from the time he began the actual work of digging coal, and as everyone knows, the site of operations is a considerable distance below the surface of the earth. In many cases miners were forced to spend as much time as an hour traveling between the mouth of the mine and the work site. Although the miners, during the course of this travel, were on the employer's property and subject to the employer's discipline, they received no compensation of any sort for the time so spent.

Labor Board Rulings

In the course of seeking a solution to the impasse in the negotiations for the return of the miners to work, the issue of the payment for such time was again emphasized. It was claimed that such time was really work time and that payment for such time was mandatory under the Fair Labor Standards Act. The War Labor Board then ruled that if payment for travel time was mandatory under the Fair Labor Standards Act that it would approve payment for time spent in traveling to and from the work site. The applicability of the F.L.S.A. in this situation was carried to the courts and the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Co. case recognized that Portal-to-Portal pay was mandatory under the F.L.S.A. This decision made pay for travel time the common practice in the coal mining industry.

Gradually the administrators of the F.L.S.A. have covered other industries with this principle. The last such industry to be covered is the logging and lumbering industry where the F.L.S.A. ruled that the employees must receive pay for all time spent in traveling to and from the site of operations. In this industry such travel has at times amounted to several hours in the course of a day, and this ruling will provide additional compensation to the workers in the industry.

The question is now under investigation in sev-

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eral other industries and rulings are expected to provide pay for travel time in these industries. As a matter of interest, it should be noted that the recently negotiated contracts in the motion picture studios in Hollywood contain travel time pay provisions designed to conform with the F.L.S.A., and these agreements will now provide that all travel time must be considered as work time.

It is suggested to all unions that they investigate their own situation in regard to travel time. If their industries are subject to the jurisdiction of the F.L.S.A. and if their members do any traveling in the course of their work, they should immediately start negotiations to receive compensation for such time spent in travel.

Teamsters' Joint Council Election, Monday Night

Nomination and election of officers is on the calendar for the meeting of Junior Council of Teamsters No. 7, to be held next Monday evening, February 19, at 536 Bryant street.

President John P. McLaughlin of the Council has just returned from a session of the general executive board of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, of which body he is a member by virtue of his position as vice-president of the international, and at the Monday evening meeting he will make a report to the Joint Council on the proceedings of the board.

Morgenthau on A.F.L. Radio Program, Sunday

On the "America United" radio series the American Federation of Labor next Sunday presents Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, whose subject will be "Paying for War."

Panel members on the program are: Boris Shiskin, statistician for the American Federation of Labor; Edward A. O'Neal, president of the National Farm Bureau Federation, and Emerson P. Schmidt of the economic research department of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

The broadcast, which is a recording, will be heard over Station KPO at 8:15 next Sunday morning, and it will be repeated at 12:45 a. m. the same night.

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Conventions Have a Slim Chance to Gain Approval

Labor organizations planning conventions again are warned by Col. J. Monroe Johnson, director of O.D.T., and Chairman of the War Committee on Conventions, that the chances of approval of any non-local meeting involving more than 50 persons are "extremely slim." Of all the applications formally submitted to the committee 222 have already been turned down, with approval given only to two—a Red Cross meeting and a War Fund meeting.

In view of this, all organizations "should give serious consideration to the advisability of voluntary canceling or postponing all meetings during the critical months ahead," the O.D.T. director said. "How ever necessary or essential to the work of an organization a conference or a convention might normally be, it is difficult to think of an assemblage that could not be put off and its activities handled by temporary machinery or groups of less than 50 persons, in view of the supreme war-time necessity of conserving transportation, hotel space, manpower and scarce essential materials."

No permission is needed, Colonel Johnson said, to hold meetings of fewer than 50, but the limitation of 50 applies to the total number in attendance, regardless of how many actually make use of inter-city transportation or hotel accommodations. Gatherings of larger size, if of a purely local character, using no hotel facilities and making use of only city or suburban transit facilities, also need not apply for permission.

Colonel Johnson expressed his appreciation for the co-operation of scores of organizations which have voluntarily cancelled conventions without burdening the committee with applications. The committee is now receiving about 650 communications weekly regarding conventions.

PAY FOR TIME NOT WORKED

WASHINGTON.—A resolution of the Second Regional W.L.B. at New York granting employers in New York State authority to pay employees for time not worked due to emergency closings of business pursuant to an emergency fuel conservation order has been unanimously approved by the National W.L.B.



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Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY,
President of Typographical Union No. 21

Fifty-four members of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 will this year be entitled to the 50-year button authorized last August by the Grand Rapids convention. These 54 members, in order to qualify for this Honor Roll emblem, have held continuous membership in the International Typographical Union for 50 or more years. Only two of this number will qualify during the year, the rest having previously reached the 50-year mark. Twenty-seven members will this year receive their 40-year emblems. This brings the members of No. 21 who have 40 or more years continuous membership and who have been issued Honor Roll emblems, or will receive them this year, to a grand total of 298 since 1941, when the 40-Year Honor Roll was first instituted.

Again this year No. 21 is instructed by the International secretary's office to inform retired members that a Treasury Department ruling provides that members on the old age pension roll should not include pensions received from the International Typographical Union as a part of their gross income in completing their income tax returns. Secretary Gill states also that rulings of the Treasury Department concerning the deductibility of dues and assessments paid by members will be published in the February *Journal*. Treasury Department confirmation of this ruling when received was dated December 30, 1944—too late for the January *Journal*. As returns are filed on or before March 15, publication in the February *Journal* should allow sufficient time.

In a letter a few weeks ago Dennis O'Dea of the *Examiner* chapel stated he was well on his way to be among the first to drink a beer in Berlin. A recent V-Mail to his fellow workers of the *Examiner* comes from an Army hospital in England, where he is a casualty, suffering from shrapnel wounds in the stomach. Always an optimist, however, Denny expresses satisfaction that he has nothing to do but lie in a nice clean bed and is entirely removed from the rigors of the winter campaign in Germany.

Sergeant M. M. Hoffman of the *Chronicle* chapel writes his fellow workers from somewhere in the Pacific, thanking the chapel for its Christmas package, which had recently arrived. He says the selection of articles was excellent and included many which are unobtainable at his station, making them doubly welcome.

The firm of Wallace Kibbee & Son was this month designated as typographic designer of the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, a publication with main offices in New York City.

Two copies of the New Zealand *Free Lance* were presented to the Union last week by W. Frank Blagg, for the reading room at headquarters. This is an illustrated weekly publication of 50-odd pages, published at Wellington, and contains some interesting war pictures. Thanks.

Sergeant Jack Lansberry, a member of Turlock Typographical Union and son of Charles Lansberry

of the *Call-Bulletin* chapel, has been returned to the States after three years with the Army in the South Seas, and is now at Barnes General Hospital, Vancouver, Washington. Sergeant Lansberry has been hospitalized since November 15 battling dengue fever and other tropical diseases.

Vice-President A. C. Allyn returned to his machine at the *Examiner* late this week after an absence of three months, with an illness which kept him confined to his home the major portion of this time. Bert's condition has shown wonderful improvement during the past month.

H. V. Allen of the Paramount New Central Press, who was recently inducted into the service, informed headquarters on Thursday of last week that, although he did not know his destination, he was leaving immediately for an Army training camp.

M. H. Beach is absent from his machine this week at the *News*, having started a two-week vacation last Monday.

Last week we received a letter from E. B. (Bones) Anderson, retired member residing at 8206 Iris street, Oakland, who at 84 years of age has carried a Typographical Union card 62 years. In summing up his general condition at this time, "Bones" volunteers the following information: "With the exception of the need of a new pair of eyes, new set of teeth, new ears and feet, and a few minor wants, I am as well as 84 years can expect."

A letter to Mackenzie & Harris states Elizabeth Dean, proofreader of that chapel who underwent an operation last month, is convalescing at San Jose and, although her condition is improved, it is expected it will be some time before she may return to her proof desk.

Ray McDonald, who has been working at the State Printing Office since the session began, was down from Sacramento and spent last week-end with his mother here.

Death claimed Charles A. Reid of the *Daily News* chapel early Tuesday morning at his home, 3 Oakdale avenue, Mill Valley. Deceased had been ill the past nine months, having left his work in May of last year, and his condition had continued to become more critical. Depositing a Sacramento card in San Francisco in 1922, he had become associated with the *News* and remained with that paper for over 20 years. A native of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, he was born on December 4, 1863, and was 71 years of age. He had been a continuous member of the Typographical Union for 50 years. Surviving are his wife, Bessie, and two sisters. Episcopal services were conducted at the Jas. H. Reilly chapel, 29th and Dolores, yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment was at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park.

No. 21 has no "conscientious objectors," and we have no knowledge of any member of the I.T.U. being incarcerated for refusing to serve his country. Having been questioned at different times concerning the status of members who would take this stand, it might not be amiss to quote an executive council ruling issued in April of 1942, which reads as follows: "Journeyman members of the International Typographical Union who may be incarcerated in conscientious objectors' camps by the government of either the United States or Canada during the World War emergency shall be required to pay dues and assessments as provided by the Constitution of the International Typographical Union under the classification of 'active members not working at the trade.'" Around 11,000 of our members now serving with the armed forces have the assurance their membership will be protected and are exempt from payment of all dues and assessments.

Woman's Auxiliary No. 21 to S.F.T.U. No. 21

By Louise A. Abbott

The regular business meeting will be held next Tuesday evening, February 20, at 8 o'clock, in Sagamore hall, Red Men's building, 240 Golden Gate avenue. Remember that your dues are payable, and must reach the W.I.A. secretary-treasurer before March 1. Bring or send them to Secretary Myrtle J. Bardsley, 1456 Sacramento street. After the business meeting, refreshments, cards and social get-together. Come, and bring the family.

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OUR OWN BAKERY

The Label Committee will meet prior to the business meeting.

On last Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. George Reynolds gave a turkey dinner for eight in honor of Mr. Reynolds' niece and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holmes of Oakland, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. Mrs. Holmes' mother, Mrs. Sarah Palmerlee (sister of Mr. Reynolds) came from Modesto to join the festivities and visit with the Reynolds for a few days.

Mrs. "Betsy" Haines and little daughter are in Redwood City visiting Mrs. Merlene Reeves and son.

Last Thursday, Eldon and Mrs. McLeod tendered their daughter, Eldon Ann, a dinner in honor of her eighteenth birthday.

Mrs. Mary Bush of Hawaii has been the guest of the Harry Porters. Mrs. Bush, past president and department secretary of Hawaii American Legion Auxiliary, is homeward bound after attending the National Defense meeting at Washington, D. C., and the board meeting at Indianapolis.

Cards and pictures continue to come in for the Children's Hospital through the wide interest of LABOR CLARION readers. Our thanks to Mrs. N. M. Little, *Examiner* chapel, who sent in over a thousand, and to the editor of the LABOR CLARION, who makes it possible for us to reach so many.

Golf News — By Charles A. White

Get set for February 25 at El Camino—the February tournament of the Golf Association. Curley Vesey, the pro. and manager of the El Camino course, states the course is in fine condition despite the abundance of rain during the month; and assures the members and their friends a splendid day of golfing.

There will be War Stamps given as prizes for the three classes and for the guest flight; hole-in-one contest—the winners to receive War Stamps. A blind bogey for three new reprocessed golf balls. The secretary has been asked by the pro. at Sharp Park that the U.P.G.A. continue with the turning in of old golf balls; the manufacturers are in dire need of these balls so they can re-cover them for our use. The threat is, if you don't turn in the old balls now, in a very short time there'll be a real shortage of balls, if any at all. So let's get all the old golf balls we can find around the house and turn them in at the next tournament.

The golfers were out in force during the past week; our operative caught a number of the tribe "hacking" here and there. . . . "Cy" Stright, Ron Cameron, Eddie Schmieder, "Blackie" Blackford, Paul Bauer and Art Linkous have been seen out to Harding Park. . . . Ask a certain fellow who wears a brown beanie why he "froze" on his approach shot when he had plenty of the long green riding on the shot. . . . Paul Gallagher, Jack Tappendorff and Howard Watson had a game of real competitive golf at Sharp Park. . . . Jess Conaway, Roy Donovan, Percy Crebassa and Charlie ("Steamer") Nicholson are getting in plenty of practice in preparation for the City Tournament.

El Camino . . . Sunday, February 25. . . . Tee time, 10:30.

Chemical Workers Join the Union Label Department

The International Chemical Workers' Union has affiliated with the A.F.L. Union Label Trades Department, I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the department, announced here.

Both H. A. Bradley, president of the Chemical Workers' Union, and R. E. Tomlinson, its secretary-treasurer, are able and progressive leaders and deserve great credit for building such a strong union in an industry never before unionized, Secretary Ornburn said. The union in convention recently decided to use the union label to advance the sale of union-made chemical products.

"After long experience in the world, I affirm, before God, that I never knew a rogue who was not unhappy."—*Junius*.

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Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

The East Bay members of San Francisco-Oakland Mailers' Union No. 18 tendered a banquet last Monday night to the union's officers at the Athens Athletic Club in Oakland. Walter White, the popular foreman of the *Post-Enquirer*, acted as master of ceremonies and toastmaster, in his usual graceful style, and befitting the historic occasion—the consolidation of the Bay Area mailer unions into the above-named mailers' union.

Among the guests were J. W. Chaudet, president, and Jack Austin, secretary, of Oakland Typographical Union; I.T.U. Representative Whiting; LeRoy F. Bennetts, ex-president, San Francisco Mailers' Union; members of the Pressmen's Union, and members of the business staffs of the Oakland *Tribune* and *Post-Enquirer*, with whom the East Bay mailers are closely associated; M. E. Ricks, of Tacoma Mailers' Union, and the writer.

Chaudet, Austin and Whiting gave logical, forthright talks, in which they expressed their pleasure over the merging of the two mailer unions and also the atmosphere of the true union spirit and fraternalism shown by the members between printers and mailers and the other members of the Bay Area printing trades unions; that its value to all concerned could not be over-estimated. Gratifying to note the East Bay members of the new mailers' union spoke along the same lines.

Secretary-Treasurer Bailey, who is also secretary-treasurer of the San Francisco Allied Printing Trades Council, tentatively outlined plans that the Bay Area mailers' union will seek to inaugurate in the near future. The writer was pleased to be among those present and the invite to give a brief talk on his experiences as a working mailer since 1886. Which was complied with.

Arthur ("Mase") Berliner, of the executive committee, and the genial and efficient chairman of the *Examiner* chapel, being in good voice, rendered a few vocal selections to the piano accompaniment, which "brought down the house." "Mase," as he is familiarly known, with his clear tenor voice and inimitable style, is always a host within himself.

Eddie Johnson, of the Pressmen, and "Mase" rendered a few songs in a pleasing style. Outstanding was the real social atmosphere that prevailed, with a spirit of good feeling all around when the hour arrived for adjournment to the members' several places of abode.

John M. Cross, of the East Bay mailers, passed away last week in Oakland from throat ailment. He was a native of Missouri, and 54 years of age. Well known among West Coast mailer unions. Funeral services were held at the Chapel of the Chimes last Monday in Oakland.

Secretary O'Connell Improving

It was pleasing news to the many friends of Secretary John A. O'Connell of the San Francisco Labor Council when it was announced that he had shown marked improvement in the last few days, and that with such continued progress it was hoped he might be able to leave St. Francis hospital the latter part of the week. It was found by his physician that he had suffered from recurrence of a stomach ailment and that no complications had developed that would lengthen his stay in the hospital, where he has been a patient for nearly two weeks.

Have you made a blood donation to the Blood Bank?



Watchmakers' Union

GUARANTEE and BOND

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM

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Blood Donor Drive

The Labor Council's Blood Donor Committee again reports increased interest this week on the part of union members affiliated with A.F.L. unions. A report also was made to the Council last Friday evening, which will be found in the minutes, appearing on page 10 of this issue.

Chairman Frank Fitzgerald of the committee was compelled to temporarily cease activities this week, as he is to represent his union at the Buffalo meeting of the culinary and hotel workers, and has departed for that gathering. During his absence, "Andy" Ahern and Russell Dreyer will carry on for the committee in the blood donor drive and in mobilizing voting support for Mrs. Mary McDonald, who is sponsored by the Labor Council for Purple Heart Queen in the contest being carried on in connection with the blood donor drive, and wherein each donor is privileged to cast a ballot.

Various unions announced during the week that they had appointments for their members at the Red Cross Blood Procurement Center, 2415 Jones street—one organization, Warehousemen No. 860, announcing forty volunteers for blood donations in one day.

The cards being used to mobilize the blood donors are now available for circulation in plants where large numbers are employed, and upon which the volunteer makes known his or her intention to make the blood donation and the preference of date and time for an appointment at the Procurement Center. In places of employment where these cards have not been distributed, anyone wishing to secure one or more will be accommodated by making application of Mrs. McDonald at the Labor Council office, 2940 Sixteenth street (Market 6304).

The Labor Council urges every member of its affiliated unions, who is within the age limits for making blood donation, to join in support of the present campaign to increase the blood supply at the Procurement Center—and perhaps save a life somewhere on the battlefields where the nation's armed forces are now engaged. The substantial and practical support to the campaign, in the last analysis, comes from those who will give, and those who already have given, their blood at the Procurement Center.

Members of A.F.L. unions are again reminded that they are privileged to cast a ballot for Purple Heart Queen in the current campaign, and that the Labor Council will appreciate the honor of having their ballot cast for the Council's candidate, Mrs. Mary McDonald. And by all means, register the name of the union organization with which you are affiliated, when making a blood donation, to the end that the A.F.L. unions may receive proper credit for their part in the campaign.

P. Rivera Martinez, president of the Puerto Rico Federation of Labor, petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to conduct an election among the industrial workers employed in the 41 Puerto Rico sugar mills. Agricultural workers would be excluded from the unit. Martinez also appealed to the O.P.A. to set a price for Puerto Rico sugar which would permit the industry to pay wages of 40 cents an hour for field workers and 60 cents an hour for factory workers. He pointed out that workers in the sugar industry now earn only \$250 a year, during a season lasting 120 days.

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State Federation Discusses Field Memorandum No. 67

From Headquarters of California State Federation of Labor

Some time ago the Labor Advisory Committee to the Bureau of Labor Statistics discussed a Field Memorandum issued by the National War Labor Board on October 31, 1944 with respect to the Regional Board's authority to consider wage data collected later than April, 1943. Because of the misunderstanding created by this Memorandum, and because of the great interest the unions have in establishing proper wage brackets, the Federation considers it important to supply as much enlightenment as possible regarding this Memorandum for the guidance of the unions who may encounter this problem.

It was the position of the Federation representatives to the B.L.S. that any mechanical application by that body of collecting wage rates in particular labor market areas as of April, 1943 would nullify the whole wage stabilization program and make impossible any revision of wage brackets. It was pointed out that brackets which have already been set by the Board on the basis of a period or periods subsequent to April, 1943 were set in accord with the principles expressed in the Field Memorandum which permitted collection of data from such periods "because of the exigencies of wage data collection," although corrections in such data should be made to reflect rates in effect as of April, 1943. This effort to freeze wages as of April, 1943 must be opposed, and the Tenth Regional War Labor Board should take steps to clarify the application of this Memorandum as far as it applies to collecting wage data by such agencies as the B.L.S. It is not conceivable how the B.L.S. can possibly do an adequate job, let alone an efficient one, if it is to be restricted in its wage collecting efforts by such an arbitrary ruling. Members of the Labor Advisory Committee to the B.L.S. have taken this stand and have passed resolutions, as has been reported earlier, to modify this ruling by the N.W.L.B. It is advisable for unions that encounter the problem of establishing wage brackets or revising such brackets to consult with the Federation in order that they may be able to organize their data in such a fashion to overcome the mechanical interpretations of this Memorandum which would nullify any effort to increase the wage brackets.

"Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the rest is in the hands of God."
—George Washington

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S. F. Labor Council

Secretary's Office and Headquarters:
Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street (Room 214)
Headquarters Phone MArket 6304

The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday, at 7:30 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

Synopsis of Meeting Held Friday February 9, 1945.

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p. m. by Vice-President Haggerty, President Shelley acting as Secretary, and Brother Armstrong acting as vice-chairman.

Roll Call of Officers—All present excepting Secretary O'Connell, who was excused due to illness.

Credentials—Referred to the organizing committee: Bakers No. 24—Albert Panther, Paul Guderley, William Strachan, Theodore Lindquist, Fred Schierbaum, Robert Adam, Charles Becker, Al Moskowitz, William Hanke. Fire Fighters No. 798—Edward T. McGovern, R. F. Callahan, Leon E. Moffatt, Frank Flaherty, Bernard B. Lenhart, Thomas J. Mills, Frank Blackburn, Adolph Penebsky Jr., Charles S. Graham, John McCloskey.

Report of the Organizing Committee—(Meeting held Friday, February 9.) Meeting called to order at 7:30 p. m. Roll was called and absentees noted. The following were examined and having been found to possess the proper qualifications, your committee recommends that they be seated as delegates to this Council: Beauticians No. 12—Margaret McFarland. Bookbinders No. 31-125—Alice Dickson. Civil Service Janitors No. 66A—Mrs. Edna Pellissier. Leather and Novelty Workers No. 31—Charles Bruno, J. R. McIver. Amalgamated Lithographers No. 17—Ivan Brandenburg, Adam Vurek. Production and Aeronautical Workers No. 1327—Charles Woods. Recommendation of committee concurred in.

Communications—Filed: From the Technical Engineers No. 89, regretting their inability to financially support some of the worthy causes brought to their attention at this time, and hoping to be in a position shortly to participate actively. From the president of the American Federation of Labor, advising that its Committee on Social Security will later need our support on a program to secure enactment of legislation broadening the purposes of the Social Security Act in Congress. From the Free Trade Union Committee, Labor League for Human Rights, expressing gratitude to A.F.L. bodies contributing funds in its support, and requesting continued support of this cause. From U. S. Senator Sheridan Downey, telegram assuring the Council that the labor draft issue will receive his careful consideration. From Congressman Richard Welch, pledging opposition to the May Manpower Conscription Bill. From Cooks No. 44, enclosing resolution regarding increase in membership of the Juvenile Probation Committee which they have adopted. (The Council adopted a similar resolution in its meeting of January 19.) From the Pasadena-San Gabriel Valley Central Labor Council, resolution asking that the N.W.L.B. revise Field Memorandum No. 67. (The Council adopted similar resolution on January 5.) From Department Store Employees No. 1100, advising adoption of the Labor Council's postwar planning committee report, submitted December 15, 1944. Weekly News Letter of

the California State Federation of Labor, dated February 7.

Bills were presented, approved by the trustees and ordered paid.

Donations: To San Francisco Chapter, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis: Chauffeurs Union, Women's Division, No. 265, \$100; Upholsters No. 28, \$10; Steamfitters No. 590, \$150; Hospital and Institutional Workers No. 250, \$10; Waitresses No. 48, \$25. To Labor's League for Human Rights (Free Trade Union Fund): Waitresses No. 48, \$25; Hospital and Institutional Workers No. 250, \$10. To War Chest: Waitresses No. 48, \$500. Moving Picture Machine Operators No. 162, \$510 (quarterly payment).

Resolutions—Submitted by President Shelley, stating the opposition of the Council to the O.P.A.'s proposed reduction of rationing boards in San Francisco; unanimously adopted. (See resolution in full in another column.) Resolution submitted by Lawrence Palacio, president of Laundry Workers No. 26, relating to proposed raise in street car fare in San Francisco; motion that the resolution be adopted; amendment, that the resolution be referred to the executive committee with instruction that they study the matter and report to the Council, and that they keep the thought in mind that this Council is fundamentally opposed to a raise in fares; amendment carried.

Referred to the Executive Committee—From the Joint A.F.L. Finance Committee of the Labor Movement in Hawaii, requesting financial assistance for the young and struggling labor movement in the Islands.

Referred to the Law and Legislative Committee—From the Office of the Governor, analysis of S. B. No. 500 and A. B. No. 800, the prepaid health service bills advocated by the Governor and now pending in the Legislature.

Referred to the War Labor Board Committee—From California State Council of Retail Clerks No. 2, several resolutions adopted by executive council at its meeting in Fresno on February 4.

Referred to the California State Federation of Labor—From the secretary of the Solano County Central Labor Council, resolution requesting the State Federation to establish a public relations department, to the end that the case of labor can be put before the public in a proper and effective manner.

Referred to the LABOR CLARION—From the O.P.A. Labor Office in Washington, D.C., memorandum regarding Labor's Rent Control Program.

Report of the Executive Committee—(Meeting held Monday, February 5.) Called to order at 8 p. m. by Vice-Chairman Haggerty, Chairman Shelley acting as secretary, Brother O'Connell having been excused due to illness. Roll was called and the following members were noted as absent: Brothers Phillips and Vail. Excused: Brothers O'Connell and Rotell. In the matter of the application of Apartment and Hotel Employees No. 14 for strike sanction against a list of some 20-odd apartment houses, Brothers Dreyer and Rowan appeared before the committee on behalf of the local; none of the embeens notified to do so; Brother Dreyer asked that ployers made an appearance, although they had the following firms be held in committee as the situation existing between themselves and the local unions was in the process of adjustment: Price and Bloom, 58 Third street; P. J. Crowley, 855 Pine street; Panama Realty Company, 36 Fifth street; John DeMartini, 1233 California street; M. Matteri, 1656 Powell street; Jules Bernheim, 801 Van Ness avenue; Dr. L. C. Mendel, 415 Jones street. This situation arises from the following facts: All of the individual operators noted in the communication from Local 14 of the B.S.E.I.U. are members of the Apartment House Owners and Managers' Association, and parties to the contract existing between Local 14 and the Apartment House Owners and Managers' Association; the union's contention is that these individual apartment house operators have failed to live up to the contract and have not signed

a renewal of the contract in conformity with the renewal provisions agreed to between themselves and the association; your committee, therefore, recommends that strike sanction against the following firms be granted Local 14, with the instructions that they be taken up with the Conciliation Service for the purpose of prosecuting this case before the War Labor Board as a dispute case: Estate of Charles Rebmann, 634 Powell street; H. Petersen, 860 Geary street; Melba DeMaria, 1755 Franklin street; Henrietta Bon, 535 Leavenworth street; Mrs. M. S. Berges, 136 Oak street; P. J. M. Bertelsen, 175 Twenty-first avenue; Clara Warren, 363 Page street; Mrs. Ella C. Graham, 495 Thirty-second avenue; Margaret Jarvis, 534 Hyde street; Oliver J. Olsen, 1 Drumm street; Harry Likas, 897 California street; Albertson Realty Co., 157 Sutter street; A. T. Morris & Son, 5400 Fulton street. In the matter of the resolution submitted by Delegates Arthur Hare and Stanley Isaacs, calling upon the Council to endorse a Bay Area Forum on Compulsory Health Insurance to be held in San Francisco on February 25. Brothers Isaacs, Hare and Joseph Bailey appeared before the committee on behalf of the resolution; this public forum on health insurance is to be held under the auspices of the Northern California Union Health Committee, the San Francisco Physicians' Forum and several women's organizations. Although the San Francisco Labor Council favors the enactment of legislation establishing compulsory health insurance and is dedicated to do everything possible to have such legislation enacted, nevertheless, your committee feels that the Council cannot and should not endorse meetings held by outside organizations, over which the Council has no control; it has long been the policy of this Council not to endorse such meetings. Your committee, therefore, recommends that the resolution be filed, and that in lieu thereof the Council urge all delegates and all officers and members of affiliated unions to attend not only this meeting of February 25, but all other public discussions on compulsory health insurance, so that they may obtain as broad a knowledge of the terms and provisions of the various health insurance proposals as is possible. Your committee also urges all American Federation of Labor persons in attendance at such meetings where comments from the floor are called for to put forth and support the position taken by the A.F.L. on health insurance. Members of the A.F.L. are urged to insist that legislation setting up a compulsory health insurance system contain the following provisions: 1. Coverage of such legislation should extend to all workers in public or private employment and to the dependents of workers. 2. The administration of such a health insurance program should be kept as simple as possible, and should be vested in a commission to consist of representatives of labor, management, the public and the medical profession. 3. Patients should be free to choose any doctor or group of doctors, and patients should be free to change to any doctor or group of doctors. 4. That payments to doctors for ordinary medical care should be according to the number of persons choosing the physician, and not on a fee-for-service basis. 5. Any plan enacted should contain provisions for dental care and adequate medical and hospital care; the officers of the Council were also instructed to convey this position to all local unions by letter. Your committee recommends that the Council purchase a suitable American flag; this flag to be kept in the Council office and placed on the platform of the Council Auditorium for each Council meeting. In the matter of a communication from the Committee for Observance of Negro History Week, asking for a donation toward the fund for celebrating Negro History Week and making known to the American public the contributions by negroes to the culture and history of our country. Your committee recommends that the Council contribute \$10 toward this cause. This being the first meeting of the committee since the election, your committee, in compliance with the constitution and by-laws of the Council, organized and adopted the rules for the committee. The following officers of the committee were elected: Chairman, President Shelley; vice-chairman, Vice-President Haggerty; secretary, Secretary O'Connell; sergeant-at-arms, Anthony Costa. The following rules were adopted by the committee and the committee recommends their approval by the Council:

Executive Committee Rules—It is mandatory upon the members of the executive committee to

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attend the meetings of the committee regularly. Absence for three consecutive meetings without reasonable excuse shall be reported to the Council, and the seat of the delegate on the committee shall be declared vacant, if no reasonable ground for his absence shall be presented.

2. Meetings of the committee shall be called to order promptly at 8 p. m. every Monday evening, except in case the Council or the secretary shall change the date or determine that no meeting is to be held, and give due notice thereof.

3. No meetings of the committee shall be prolonged after twelve (12) midnight.

4. A member of the committee, whose union is directly involved in a matter to be decided by the committee, shall not be allowed to vote thereon in making a recommendation to the Council concerning such matter.

5. All members of the committee are required to support all recommendations of the committee when submitted for approval to the Council, except in case the member requests of the committee to be recorded in the negative, or gives notice that he intends to submit a minority report.

6. Matters presented to the Labor Council on Friday evening which are to go to the executive committee and require notices to be sent out to insure the attendance of other persons or organizations than one presenting the matter, will be postponed for one entire week to enable proper notice to be issued and insure attendance of all persons necessary for proper consideration of the matter.

7. No report of business or action transacted by the executive committee shall be published until or before it shall be presented to the regular meeting of the San Francisco Labor Council, except by instruction of a majority of the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 10 p. m. The report of the committee as a whole concurred in.

Report of the Labor Council Blood Donor Committee—The committee met in the library of the Council, Tuesday, February 6, at 10:30 a. m. Those present were: President Shelley, Tillie Clifford, Jennie Matyas, Claude Jinkerson, Joseph Bailey, William Walsh, Andy Ahern and Frank Fitzgerald. The many problems which were brought out at the Labor Council meeting of February 2 were discussed in detail and a sub-committee was appointed to meet with the officials of the Red Cross to see if these obstacles could be overcome. On Thursday, February 8, Brother Shelley, Sister Matyas and I met with General Joyce and Colonel Quigley of the Red Cross and discussed in detail the present location of the Center, breaking of appointments, transportation to and from the Center. After the discussion we were escorted through the Center and introduced to the heads of departments with whom we shall work. We were told that the Red Cross is trying to get a building located near the Civic Center which could handle larger groups of donors at one time. It was suggested by the committee that at least six or eight beds be set aside for use in case of a large influx of donors which happens now at the present Center with large groups of military personnel. The Center will furnish transportation to any groups from 6 or 8 to 25. They would rather the groups be kept to no more than 25 donors at one time so that the appointments can all be kept. They realize that a long wait at the Center discourages the donors from coming back at another time. It was suggested that all group appointments be handled from a central point and that the person responsible, make all appointments with Mrs. Miller. The Red Cross is more than willing to co-operate with the A.F.L. and felt that with the appointment-card system, an accurate record of A.F.L. blood donors could be kept. Because of the shortage of doctors and skilled personnel, it is impossible to speed up the operation of the Center, which has a capacity of about 60 persons per hour when everything is functioning perfectly. Today at 11 a. m. the full committee received a report from the sub-committee and made the following recommendations: 1. A letter should be sent from the Labor Council to all affiliated unions explaining the use of the appointment cards, age limits for donors, and the making of group appointments and transportation for the groups. 2. That this Blood Donor Drive is not for the duration of the Purple Heart Queen

contest, but must be a sustained one for the duration of the war. Brother Lovejoy of the Shipwrights, Local No. 1149, reported to the committee that the General Engineering Corporation has agreed to let men off in groups and pay them for the time spent going to and from the Red Cross Center.

Submitted by Frank Fitzgerald, Chairman. The report of the committee as a whole was concurred in.

A general discussion was held in connection with the work of the Labor Council Blood Donor Committee and the necessity of giving blood, supplementing the report submitted by Brother Fitzgerald.

A motion picture entitled "The Seattle Story," was shown under the auspices of the O.P.A., showing what can be done to bring about compliance with community ceiling prices. President Shelley then introduced Mr. Brunner of the O.P.A. Legal Enforcement Division, who gave an interesting and informative talk on price control and rationing in San Francisco and answered a number of questions on this subject which were put to him by the delegates. The president also introduced Miss Helyn Stewart and commented on the fine work she has done in co-operating with labor from the O.P.A. office.

It was announced that due to the fact that Monday, February 12, was Lincoln's Birthday, there would be no meeting of the executive committee on that evening.

Receipts \$4920.60; Disbursements \$1382.45.

Meeting adjourned at 11 p. m.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN F. SHELLEY, Acting Secretary.

RAIL WORKERS ASK DEFERMENT

Representatives of 14,000 enginemen and firemen on three important railroads have approved a request for selective service deferments because of the acute labor shortage. The group acted for members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen employed by the Pennsylvania, the Reading and the Baltimore & Ohio. The representatives emphasized need for obtaining a 1-A essential industry rating for railroads. General chairmen were instructed to discuss with management a plan to report to draft boards names of all employees who refuse to perform their jobs or who are absent from work without cause. Union spokesmen, commenting on the railroad workers' request, recalled that nearly two years ago the American Federation of Labor warned against the danger to vital war transportation and production from taking too many skilled workers to build up large military forces.

Asks Big Increase in Many Kinds of War Equipment

"Production of ammunition, tires, trucks and other critical war items will have to be stepped up tremendously in America to prevent critical shortages on the western front," Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service forces, said at a press conference called by General Eisenhower at SHAEF headquarters.

The conference was the first public announcement that General Somervell has been in the European theater for several weeks on a comprehensive inspection tour of the supply situation on that front, the Army reports.

While calling stocks on hand "sufficient for a major Allied operation," Somervell emphasized that potential consumption in Europe and the Pacific demands substantial increases in production.

Specifically, he mentioned a necessary percentage increase of 200 per cent in small arms, 100 per cent in medium and heavy caliber ammunition, and 40 per cent in cotton duck.

There must also be a large increase in truck, tire and tank production, he added.

General Somervell revealed at the same time that an agreement had been reached whereby the British and Americans would arm and supply "several hundred thousand additional French troops." These additional forces, while adding a further strain on supply stocks and on the workers at home, will help speed the destruction of the Wehrmacht and the end of the fighting in Europe, the Army statement said.

RULE OF THUMB

Wife: "How can we estimate our cost of living?"
Husband: "That's simple; take our income and add 30 per cent."

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"We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully from week to week:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.
American Distributing Company.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.

Becker Distributing Company.
Bruener, John, Company.
B & G Sandwich Shops.

California Watch Case Company.
Chan Quon, photo engraver, 680 Clay.

Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of
Saturday Evening Post, Ladies' Home Journal,
Country Gentleman.

Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.;
Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.;
Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.;
Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford
Apartments, 957 Mission St.)

Drake Cleaners and Dyers.

Forreder Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.

Gantner & Mattern, 1453 Mission.
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.

Goldstone Bros, Manufacturers of overalls and
working men's clothing.

Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.

National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.

Navalet Seed Company, 423 Market.

O'Keefe-Merriett Stove Co., Products, Los Angeles.

Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.

Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.

Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue,
Oakland.

Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.

Sloane, W. & J.

Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.

Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.

Standard Oil Company.

Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.

Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.

Swift & Co.

Time and Life (magazines), products of the unfair
Donnelley firm (Chicago).

Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.

Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.

Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunny-
vale, California.

All non-union independent taxicabs.

Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of
the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of
the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Depart-
ment of the Journeymen Barbers' Interna-
tional Union of America are unfair.

Cleaning establishments that do not display the
shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93
are unfair.

Locksmith Shops which do not display the union
shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331
are unfair.

LUXOR CABS

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Mary Howell Sees Not With Eyes But With Heart

Here is a story of radar operating through 90-year-old Mary Howell of Auburn, Calif.

Though Mary Howell is totally blind, she has a veritable radar sense, which operates like radar's cathodoscope and brings her a picture of our fliers taking off for combat. So it is that Mary Howell has turned out an idea for our flying men—mascot dolls made of cotton socks into the most amusing and laughable little talismen. These are about 12 inches long and resemble something between a paratrooper and a snowman. A few of them reached San Francisco League for Service Men and were immediately tagged with red, white and blue labels, and this message from the League's vice-president, Mrs. Henry Dippel:

"Put me aboard a bomber. Call me Sock 'Em, or rename me if you wish. I'm good for laughs and the best of luck."

Lt. R. S. Hendrickson, 4th Army Air Force, took the first box of Sock 'Em Dolls to Hamilton Field, presenting them to Maj. A. H. Fiedler, in command of the 4th Air Flight Corps. Lt. Hendrickson reports back to the San Francisco League that the good luck Sock 'Em Dolls are now aboard the B-29 bombers winging their way into the battle zones. In every respect of the word, Mary Howell's Sock 'Em Dolls have gone over with the fliers. Sagely, Lt. Hendrickson advises the San Francisco League for Service Men that "if you have more of these Sock 'Em Dolls, send them this way—they've created a high frequency demand."

Minimum Woman Wage

For years some employers have contended that a woman worker who "lives with her family" could exist on practically any wage, no matter how small.

That the theory won't hold water has just been demonstrated by Edward Corsi, whom New York's Governor Dewey named industrial commissioner.

A survey conducted by trained investigators in fourteen Empire State cities disclosed that the average woman worker "living as a member of a family group" needs a minimum of \$1643.53 a year, Corsi said.

That figure, he emphasized, does not include luxuries, extremes of any kind, or even many desirable things that are in fairly general use.

The investigators reported that in the year preceding September last there were substantial increases in the cost of housing, clothing, food, personal care and other essential items.

Latest Seabee Recruits Get Navy Assignments

New truck operating and advance supply depot battalions are getting some of the new Seabee recruits since the Navy announced that 32,000 more men would be taken into the famous construction battalions. The work they'll do isn't new, but the Navy has not heretofore earmarked battalions for such duty.

Also to be formed from the ranks of the new recruits will be a number of construction and special (stevedore) battalions, CBMU's, stevedore detachments and casual drafts. The Seabees have been recruited largely from the ranks of organized labor.

The new truck operating battalions, to be similar to the Army's transportation groups, will have a

complement of 34 officers and 1204 enlisted men, compared to the normal complement of 1082. There will be 750 truck operators to a battalion, supplemented by a nucleus of veteran Seabees.

Varying in size from a full battalion down to 175, the supply depot units will bring together tire repair and parts warehousing groups that heretofore operated as casual drafts or small detachments.

Boot camp, as most of the seasoned Seabees remember it, also is revised for the newcomers. Those earmarked for truck operating battalions will get three weeks of technical training immediately after reporting to camp. Their military training will not start until the battalion begins training as a unit.

HELP FOR SMALL SAWMILLS

To aid small sawmills, if able to demonstrate special hardship, W.P.B. has granted its field offices permission to authorize delivery of small amounts of lumber without certification.

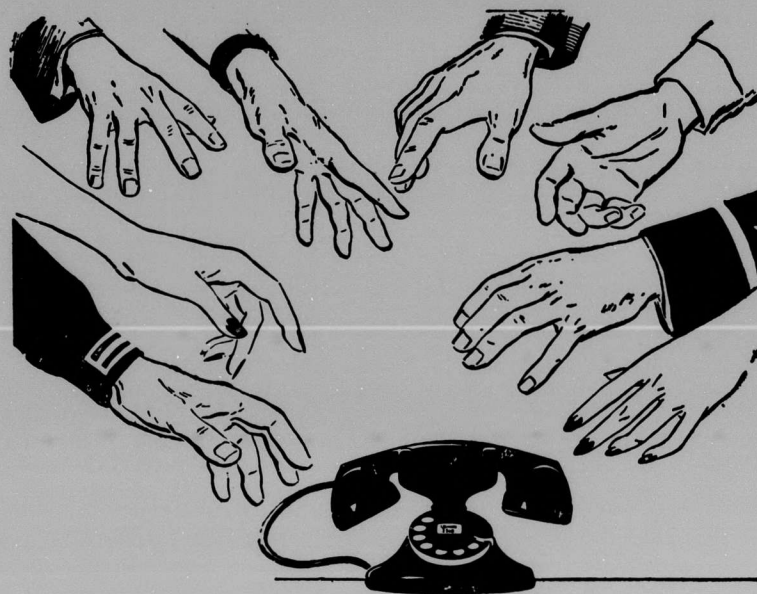
Red Cross Will Accept Messages for Prisoners

American and allied civilian internees liberated last week in the Philippines may be communicated with by mail which will be handled by American Red Cross representatives in the islands, it was announced here by officials of San Francisco Red Cross department of Home Service.

The Red Cross men and women in the Philippines will make every effort to deliver all such letters promptly.

Letters should be addressed in the following manner, stamped, and deposited in any mail box:

Name.....
American Red Cross,
Civilian War Relief Section,
APO 442, c/o Postmaster,
San Francisco, Calif.



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